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Name: Examiner Phi Dieu Tran A Group Art 3637Fax Number: 703-872-9326Date: July 23, 2004Re: Application Serial No. 09/993,969From: Alan F. Meckstroth Fax No.: (937) 298-7418Total Number of Pages Sent (Including this Cover Sheet): 1

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Mr. Phi A:

We obtained and reviewed copies of the two new references No. 3,612,821 and No. 4,006,573. In regard to amended claim 35, we are unable to find any suggestion in either of the new references or in Novak '223 of the improved structure of Applicants' patio door assembly as recited in lines 11-24 of claim 35. However, this is the structure which provides the substantial strength to the door panel frames and to the assembly and enables the assembly to avoid metal reinforcement members such as disclosed in Yane '947.

Please call after you have had a chance to review the new structure of claim 35 and the above reasons for patentability.

Respectfully,

Alan Meckstroth
Alan F. Meckstroth
937/298-2811

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